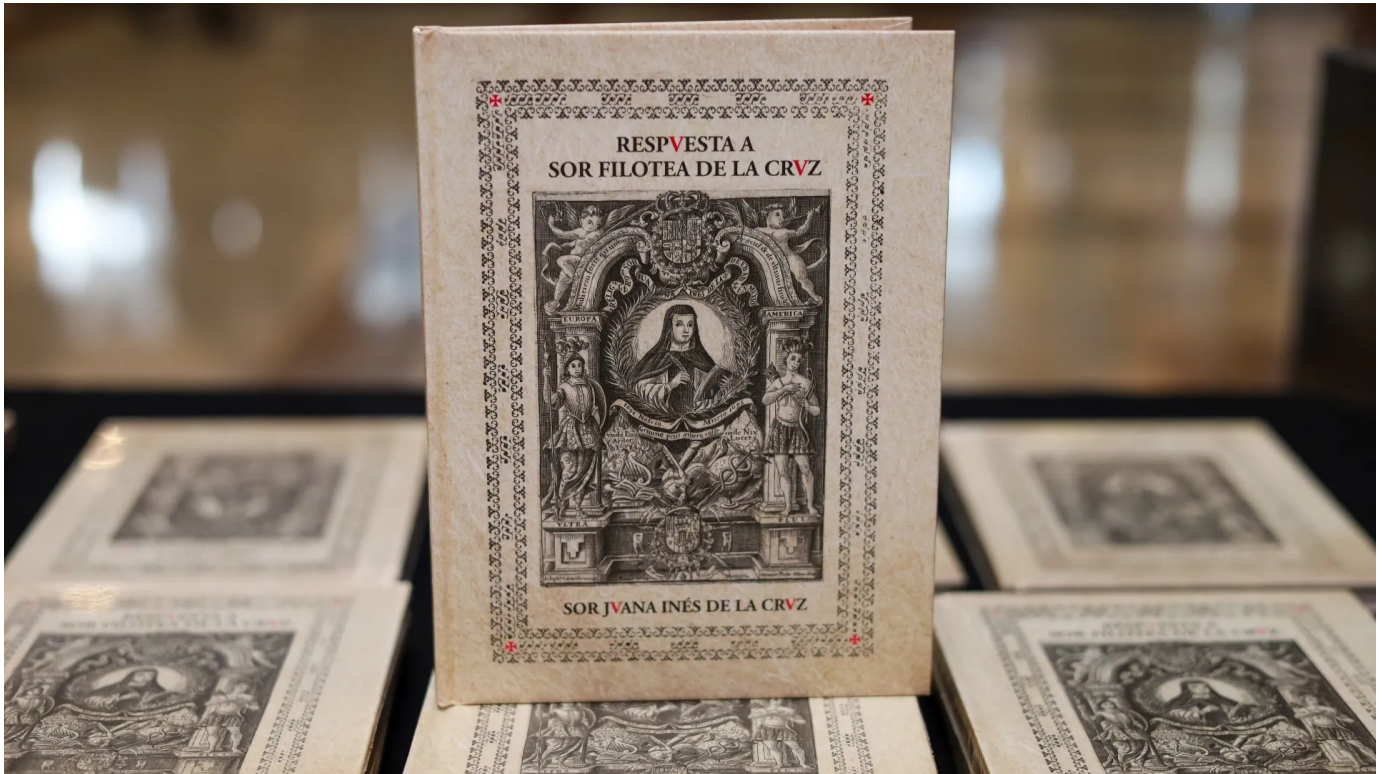


Tec publishes Sor Juana masterpiece so that young people can read it



Tec de Monterrey has unveiled a facsimile of *Respuesta a Sor Filotea* (Reply to Sister Filotea), which preserves the physical characteristics of the 1701 original and brings a seminal text on education and freedom to new generations.

27/04/2026

Fernando Ramírez

Jeshael García Márquez

At **Bellas Artes**, [Tecnológico de Monterrey](#) presented a facsimile edition of **Sister Juana Inés de la Cruz's *Respuesta a Sor Filotea*** (Reply to Sister Filotea), a work that addresses women's right to access education.

The facsimile **reproduces a 1701 edition** held at the [Miguel de Cervantes de Saavedra Special Collections Library](#) at **Tec de Monterrey**.

*“This **facsimile is groundbreaking** because the Tec has published a text that isn’t usually accessible,” said Marcela Beltrán, Director of the Cervantine Library.*

For her part, **Lizzet Saldívar**, National Director of [Cultural Heritage](#), explained that the edition took care to preserve both the content and the physical form of the original text.

*“The format, the paper’s texture, and the design evoke the experience of the original book, making it a published work that combines **historical, aesthetic, and sensory value.**”*

Sara Poot Herrera, an academic and expert on Sor Juana; Marcela Beltrán, Director of the Cervantine Library; and Moisés Villaseñor, a professor from the Department of Humanities on the State of Mexico campus, presented the facsimile edition of the work. Photo: Jeshael García Márquez



This edition also preserves the words of a woman who was ahead of her time, in which she explains why **women** should have **access to education and knowledge**.

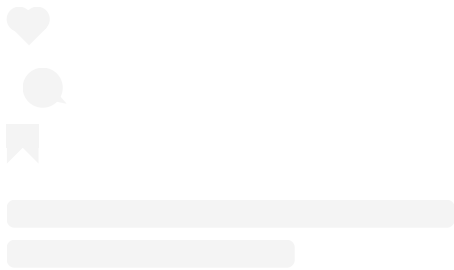
*“The Reply to Sister Filotea is considered a seminal text in which Sister Juana Inés de la Cruz drew on her own experience to **challenge a social order that confined women to silence...***

“...while also defending her right to learn, write, and participate in intellectual life,” said **Mildred Paulina Mendoza**, Director of the [National Office for Gender and Safe Communities at the Tec’s Center for the Recognition of Human Dignity](#).

The project is the result of a collaboration between the **Alfonso Reyes Chair, Cultural Heritage, and the Publishing Division of Tecnológico de Monterrey**, in partnership with the **Nuevo León Publishing Fund**.



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An edition that bridges heritage and new generations

This edition by the Tec, which aims to **bring Sor Juana's legacy** to the student body and contemporary audiences, was produced with a commitment to remaining faithful to the original.

Marcela Beltrán, Director of the Special Collections Library, explained that the text was left in its original Spanish. This is complemented by a **modern Spanish version**.

In addition, **Sara Poot Herrera**, a scholar and specialist in the works of **Sor Juana**, wrote the **foreword** and provided the translation into modern Spanish.

It also includes an introductory essay written by **Marcela Beltrán and Judith Ruiz Godoy**, the National Dean of the [School of Humanities and Education](#).

"Sor Juana started a conversation to reflect on the role of women in matters of gender, knowledge, and intellectual freedom." - Lizzet Saldívar

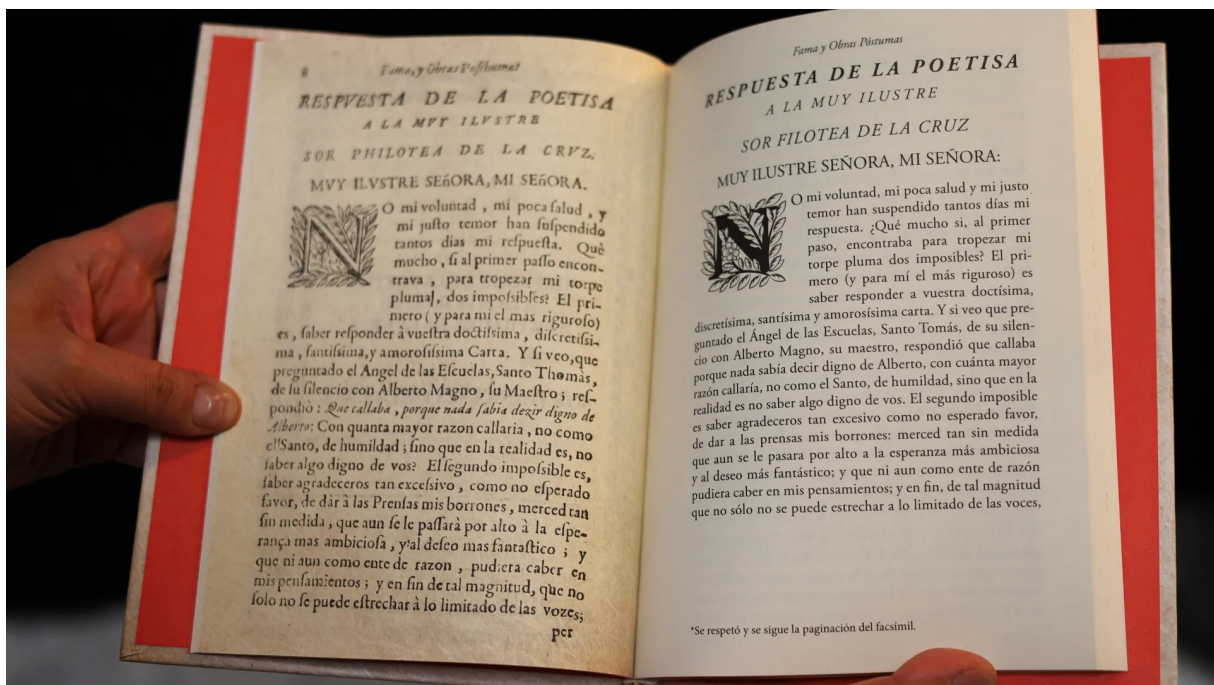
Its format replicates the original book, and the paper used in the facsimile mimics its characteristics, thereby preserving both the symbolic and historical value of the work, added **Lizzet Saldívar**.

The ***Reply to Sister Filotea*** is part of the book ***Fama y obras póstumas*** (Fame and Posthumous Works), which compiled Sor Juana's writings after her death in 1695.

Tecnológico de Monterrey's original copy belonged to the collection of **Joaquín García Icazbalceta**, a 19th-century Mexican historian, bibliographer, philologist, and publisher.

*"This **facsimile is groundbreaking** because it has published a text that isn't usually accessible, such as the original housed at the Cervantine Library," Beltrán said.*

The original work **can only be viewed in person** at the Cervantine Library located on the institution's **Monterrey campus**.



This facsimile edition preserves the care and detail of the original work, presenting Sor Juana's original manuscript alongside a modern Spanish translation. Photo: Fernando Ramírez

A text that engages with the present

The facsimile was unveiled at Palacio de Bellas Artes as part of the educational and cultural activities marking the **50th anniversary of Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico City**.

The *Reply to Sister Filotea* is in fact a letter sent by Sister Juana Inés de la Cruz to Manuel Fernández de Santa Cruz, who wrote under the pseudonym of **Sister Filotea de la Cruz** to argue that women should not study certain subjects.

In response to these claims, Sor Juana wrote a text in **1691** to assert women's right to dissent, pursue an education, and generate knowledge.

Throughout the letter, she **traces the lineage of the women** who had come before her and who had access to education, which enabled them to express their ideas and contribute to knowledge, **Saldívar** explained.

***"This facsimile is groundbreaking because the Tec has published a text that isn't usually accessible."* - Marcela Beltrán**

More than three centuries later, the text continues to address **issues that remain relevant to today's generations of women**.

"Today, women already have a variety of opportunities that allow us to participate not only in public life but also in academic and intellectual spheres.

"Sor Juana started a conversation to reflect on the role of women in very contemporary issues: gender, knowledge, and intellectual freedom," said the

National Director of Cultural Heritage.

This, she added, resonates especially with younger generations, particularly female students, who are reinterpreting this text to speak out and **carve out new spaces** in a context where challenges still persist.

The facsimile was unveiled at the Palacio de Bellas Artes and is now available for purchase on platforms such as Amazon and Los Muchos Libros. Photo: Fernando Ramírez



The reproduction or facsimile of *Respuesta a Sor Filotea* was presented by the **National Office of Cultural Development** at the Tec's School of Humanities and Education.

In addition to the work, a music and dance performance titled ***Hábitos y Letras*** (Habits and Letters) was staged by the dance and music companies of the **Mexico City, Santa Fe, and State of Mexico campuses**.

One thousand copies were printed for this first edition of the facsimile, which is available to the public through Amazon, Fondo Editorial de Nuevo León, and the distributor Los Muchos Libros.



The dance and music groups from the Tec's campuses in Mexico City presented a performance about Sister Juana Inés de la Cruz. Photo: Fernando Ramírez

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